

WITH THE FARMERS

By Prof. W. F. MASSEY



Crimson Clover Again.
From Mecklenburg County: Please advise me if it will be too late to sow crimson clover after corn planted the middle of May, and now in August. Or would you advise this clover after corn? Am anxious to have a winter cover on the land, but cannot get time to sow the seed. You will not get plenty of time, I assume, to sow the clover seed after cutting the corn. You can sow at any time from middle of August to middle of September. Whether you should sow the clover will depend on the rotation you are following, if any. With clover on the land this winter there will be the temptation to put the land in corn again. I the corn, follow these with cowpeas for hay, and then sow the clover on the pea stubble, and during the winter give it all the manure available and turn it in the spring. But you can easily sow the clover in early September, and can follow it with a crop of peas for hay well fertilized with acid phosphate.

Sulphur and Rats.
From Louisa County: "I have been told that rats may be kept from destroying wheat stalks in stacks or barns by the use of sulphur. Please tell us in The Times-Dispatch whether this is true, and how the sulphur should be used?" Inasmuch as I have never before heard of sulphur being used for this purpose, I am unable to give an opinion, and simply put the question here hoping that some one may be able to reply. Without any actual experience, I am inclined to doubt the efficacy of the sulphur. The best thing I have ever tried to keep rats down is to have plenty of barn cats.

Sowing Weed Seed.
"I have bought a lot of clover seed from a farmer near me. I have been informed that there were weeds growing among this clover. Do you suppose that I will get rid of grass on my land by sowing it? I do not know of any better way to get weeds than by sowing the seed. But the rat grass seeds are very light, and it should be easy to blow them out of the clover seed with a fanning mill and proper screen. I certainly would not sow them without screening. A great part of the weeds now infesting our fields have come in from old clover seed. One farmer in Amelia told me that he has gotten his land so full of the ribwort, or narrow leaf plantain, that he can hardly grow clover because of it. And it all came from sowing foul clover seed. When I am farming on a large scale, foul clover was an important matter with me. My practice was to get samples and examine them with a magnifying glass and count the different weed seeds, if any, and I always rejected seed containing plantain seed and other foul seeds, and bought the cleanest seed, with the condition that if the seed sent did not agree with the sample they were to be returned at the expense of the seller. In this way I usually got clean seed, and it always pays to give an extra price for reclaimed seed rather than to have foul seed given to you."

Seed Wheat.
"What variety of wheat do you consider best suited to general use in midland Virginia?" I am hardly prepared to say which will invariably be best, since it has been so many years since I grew wheat in Virginia. My favorite was the Fulcraster, but there may now be better varieties, and your neighbors may be able to advise you better than I can. At any rate, I would prefer to sow a cleaned wheat rather than a bad wheat. The bad wheat may make a good crop in a favorable season, but is far more apt to be damaged by heavy rains when in bloom than the bearded sorts. Then there is another thing in connection with any variety of wheat. It pays well to use a fanning mill that will blow out the light grains and leave only the heavy ones. I have seen a man on the farm of one of the best wheat growers in Maryland, a man who habitually makes forty bushels of wheat an acre in a favorable season, and was much interested in a machine he had for cleaning his wheat. It was in the upper story of his granary, and he had three chutes coming from it to the lower floor. Through one chute came the lightest wheat and weeds, seed and trash, that was used for chicken feed. The next chute brought down medium good milling wheat, and the third chute only the heaviest grains that were used for feed. It showed no other and his crops gave evidence of the value of the heavy seed. He sells a good deal for seed, and he found

that some were buying his milling wheat and claiming that they sowed his wheat. He then declined to sell this kind to any but a miller for grinding, as he valued the reputation of his wheat too much to let any one sow the lighter grain.

Late Sowing Peas.
Greensville County: "I have some land on which I wish to sow peas in August. There is a heavy growth of rag weeds on the land, and I am told by neighbors that it will injure the land to plow it in August. This land was very poor seven years ago. I sowed for three years, and got good hay. Last year I followed oats with peas, and then oats again, and they did finely. Land low and winter pasture for cattle and want to know your opinion about sowing oats or rye in August. Have corn growing where a heavy growth of clover and vetch was turned under. Will the vetch reseed the land?" The only danger in plowing the land in August will be that the heavy growth of rag weed may cause a fermentation that will sour the soil and make liming necessary. I have made peas of an early sort sown in August, and if the season is favorable you may get enough growth to make it pay. Your land evidently needs drainage, and probably liming. The vetch will do little to reseed the land, for if it was in bloom before turning it, there will certainly have been some seed on the lower part of the plants. I would prefer to sow the oats or rye in September.

Poorly Bred Seed.
There is no doubt that much of the seed sold in this country has been badly bred. This is especially true of the early cabbages. One can hardly find a strain of Early Wakefield cabbage that is not badly mixed. I have them now, some early and some late, but the remainder will hold the ground, and are heading round, flat and all sorts of shapes. The Pennsylvania Experiment Station has been making for several years tests of all the strains of Wakefield cabbage sold by the various seedsmen. The director, Prof. R. L. Watts, says of the results: "First, much of the seed sold by American growers and dealers is poorly bred. There is a decided lack of uniformity in the plants and heads of standard varieties, such as the Jersey Wakefield."

"Second, old varieties are being introduced annually by well-known seedsmen. This is an outrage and an insult to cabbage growers. The seedsmen who indulge in such practices should be exposed. They do not deserve the patronage of intelligent and careful growers."

"Third, it is absolutely folly to catalogue and sell seed of so many varieties when a few of the standard early and late varieties would meet the needs of growers everywhere."

"Fourth, Copenhagen Market cabbage stands out prominently as an unusually well-bred early variety. It is as early as Wakefield and larger. The seed used in the experiments were grown in Denmark. It is a good cabbage, not merely because the variety is good, but it stands for good breeding in the old country, but as soon as the American seed growers get to growing it there will be deterioration unless more care is used than at the present time." I have quoted Director Watts in full because there is certainly need for improvement in the growing of seed for our gardens and farms. I have not seen a pure stock of Jersey Wakefield cabbage for years, and it is especially annoying to a market gardener to have a patch that would have paid well had it been early, but the profits taken off and the land left when it should have been cleared, because a large part of the plants are late rather than early, and are anything but true Jersey Wakefield.

The new Copenhagen Market cabbage is certainly fine and early, but I fear that Director Watts is right, and that when the seed are grown in this country, we will have the same careless practice and a mixed up lot of seed. In the meantime those who want a really early cabbage had better drop the Wakefield and sow the Copenhagen Market, and get Danish seed.

Results in Crossing Corn.
Bulletin 262 of the Virginia Experiment Station describes experiments with corn, that showed where two strains of the same pure variety of corn from different growers were crossed, there was a marked increase the first year, even as high as 30 per cent. This would go to show that an occasional interchange of seed corn between two farmers, growing the same variety, may be made to result in increased yields, as it is well known that a crossing within the same species is an invigoration of the plant, and stronger growth is usually accompanied by heavier yields.

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

TO SAIL VISITORS NOW THE JAMES

1,000 'Better Acquaintance Week' Guests to See River by Moonlight.

WILL CROWN FESTIVITIES

Most of the Retail Merchants Are Planning to Stay Five Days.

Although coming on Thursday night, the moonlight steamer excursion down to Dutch Gap will mark the virtual climax of Richmond's great "Better Acquaintance Week." This seeming paradox of having the greatest affair of the big trade celebration in the middle of the commercial week is explained by the fact that more of the "Better Acquaintance Week" visitors will be in the city on Wednesday and Thursday than at any other period of the six days of merriment. For the early comers, Thursday will mark the end of their stay, while for those who defer their visit until the latter part of the week, Thursday will be the day of their arrival. In this way practically everyone who attends "Better Acquaintance Week" will be in the city on the night in question.

Accordingly, the entertainment committee of the Trade Extension Bureau of the Chamber of Commerce, headed by Alvin M. Smith, is preparing to make the moonlight excursion the biggest social event of the week. To this end no feature which might add to the pleasure of the glide down the James is being overlooked by the Richmond hosts, and several innovations in the way of steamer entertainments are scheduled to be staged. Unless the exigencies of navigation cause a change of plans, the big excursion steamer, Pocahontas, of the Old Dominion Steamship Line, will be pressed into service to bear the crowd of pleasure-seekers down the river.

Music and "Eats."
Of course, there will be music and refreshments and the time-honored badger-fight, and just enough speech-making not to become burdensome. The committee is negotiating with one of the local bands to furnish the music for the steamer trip, and if room can be found on the deck, those who are so disposed may dance a while to add to the fun of the jaunt. The refreshments will be light; something on the order of ice cream, cakes and liquid refreshments. It is confidently expected that at least 1,000 visiting retail merchants will be aboard the Pocahontas when she clears the Richmond dock.

Not all the 2,000 merchants who have given notice that they will attend "Better Acquaintance Week" will spend six days in Richmond. On the contrary, most of the visitors have notified the committee that they will remain in our midst about four or five days. Some will come for only two days, and fewer still for a single day. As a rule, those coming the longest distance will stay the longest. Not a few of the "Better Acquaintance Week" visitors will arrive on Monday, but it is evident that the bulk of the visiting merchants will step off the incoming trains on Tuesday and Wednesday. Tuesday will see the greatest influx of Southern visitors.

Begins Next Monday.
One week from to-day the city will don its holiday trading clothes in honor of "Better Acquaintance Week," seven days from the opening of the fair. The first visitors will descend on the city, and the great commercial celebration in the history of Richmond will be launched in full swing. The circumstances are most propitious, the interest aroused by the occasion has penetrated to every section of the South, and everything points to the most unprecedented success of "Better Acquaintance Week," from all possible standpoints.

LEADERS CALLED FOR CONFERENCE

They Will Meet to Discuss Strike of Copper Miners in Michigan.

Calumet, Mich., August 3.—Conference in Hancock and Calumet to-day between Western Federation of Miners' officials and officers of the Michigan State Federation of Labor complicated the situation in the miners' strike. It was reported that one of the visitors at the sessions was F. F. Dunham, of Detroit, who was present as the representative of Governor Ferris, in a fresh effort by the State executive to bring about a settlement. None of the men at the conference would discuss the strike, but saying that any statement must come from the Western Federation. Officials of that organization announced nothing would be given out tonight. One of the chief objections which the operators have advanced to recognition of the striking organizations is that its officers come from mining districts outside of Michigan.

President C. O. Taylor, of the Michigan State Federation, and C. E. Mahoney, of the executive board of the miners' union, spoke at a big mass-meeting in Laurium this afternoon. Mahoney announced at the same meeting he was going to the federal headquarters in Denver, and that he had wired the heads of every national labor organization to meet him at the conference. He said the strike was on to a finish.

Company managers generally rested in preparation of the test of putting more men to work this week. None of them would say when they expected to begin actual mining operations, but it was known that efforts were being made to rally such underground workers as wished to go back to the slopes and drifts, and it was predicted some would be sent down the shafts within the next few days.

FIRE IN NORFOLK.
Norfolk, Va., August 3.—Fire originating in the third story of the building occupied by the Whitehurst Furniture Company, in Main Street, to-day destroyed property estimated to be worth \$80,000. One of the three Woolworth Five and Ten Stores was located in the building adjoining the Whitehurst store, and the stock was badly damaged by water. The Whitehurst building was completely ruined, and the stock of furniture practically destroyed.

The blaze is believed to have been caused by a defective electric wire. One of the motor fire trucks in responding to the fire, skidded while turning from Granby Street into Main and struck a telephone pole on the sidewalk. The truck was partially wrecked, but the occupants escaped injury.

Ready for Dedication.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Lynchburg, Va., August 3.—Providence Methodist Church, located in Campbell County, will be dedicated next Sunday, the dedicatory services being conducted by Rev. W. G. Edwards, D. D., presiding elder of the Lynchburg District of the Virginia Conference.

Yes, 10 of the Correct Titles Are Pointed Out to You

The Contest Catalogue is a list of 5,000 book titles. Seventy-seven of these 5,000 titles are GUARANTEED to be the correct titles represented by the 77 pictures. And ten of the 77 correct titles are marked in the catalogue for you by having stars printed opposite them. Look in the catalogue, find the ten starred titles, and fit them to ten pictures during the contest. So ten correct titles are shown you, and you have only 67 to find for yourself!

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You Don't Have to Work for this Money.
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You Simply Tell the Book Titles to 77 Pictures.

You get all the pictures published to date free with the catalogue. This catalogue is sold at 35 cents and it contains all the correct titles to the 77 pictures.

FIRST PRIZE\$300 IN GOLD
SECOND PRIZE\$200 IN GOLD
THIRD PRIZE\$150 IN GOLD
FOURTH PRIZE\$100 IN GOLD

There are fifty prizes in all, totaling \$1,200.00 in gold. You start in this great free game to-day. You can win and easily, too.

What The Catalogue Is

The catalogue is a list of over 5,000 book titles, with the names of authors, especially compiled for this contest and copyrighted by the Booklovers' Contest Company, San Francisco, Cal. From this collection of book titles the 77 titles represented by the 77 pictures that appear in the contest are selected. **THUS ALL THE 77 CORRECT TITLES ARE IN THE CATALOGUE.** No more valuable aid could be given to a contestant than the catalogue furnished. Suppose a picture represents a battlefield in which a company of cavalry is riding down an infantry command. Suppose that picture was drawn to represent the title, "Overcome by the Cavalry." Well, if you have a catalogue you will not have to know, to begin with, that such a title exists. Use your ingenuity in figuring out what titles that picture might represent. Then look in your catalogue to see if such titles are listed there. If you do not find one of your possible titles in the catalogue, then you can be sure that the title is not correct.

For All the Correct Titles Are in the Catalogue

In the Contest Catalogue you will find seven certificates. Each certificate is good for five pictures. Thus, you get 35 pictures FREE with the catalogue. For instance, Certificate No. 1 is good for Pictures Nos. 1 to 5; Certificate No. 2 is good for Pictures Nos. 6 to 10; Certificate No. 3 is good for Pictures Nos. 11 to 15; Certificate No. 4 is good for Pictures Nos. 16 to 20; Certificate No. 5 is good for Pictures Nos. 21 to 25; Certificate No. 6 is good for Pictures Nos. 26 to 30; Certificate No. 7 is good for Pictures Nos. 31 to 35.

How to Use the Certificates

If you wish Pictures Nos. 1 to 5, tear out Certificate No. 1 and present it at the office of The Times-Dispatch, and the clerk will give you the pictures, or send in the certificate by mail, with the proper postage, and the pictures will be mailed to you. If you wish Pictures Nos. 1 to 10, tear out Certificates Nos. 1 and 2. If you wish Pictures Nos. 1 to 20, tear out Certificates Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4. Of course you cannot use a certificate for pictures until the actual pictures you want have been published in the paper. For instance, if you wished Pictures Nos. 31, 32, 33, 34 and 35, you would have to wait until Pictures Nos. 31, 32, 33, 34 and 35 have been actually printed in the paper.

If you use your ingenuity and your catalogue you will win, and remember that you get 35 pictures FREE with the catalogue. This is a double opportunity for you—the catalogue and the first 35 pictures together.

A four-page pamphlet, giving all details of this contest, was printed in this newspaper several days ago. If you did not see it, send a stamp or call at the office.

The principal features in connection with this contest are copyrighted by the Booklovers' Contest Co., San Francisco, Cal.

The Times-Dispatch's Great \$1200.00 Gold Booklovers' Contest

Picture No. 9 Date, August 4th



What Book Does This Picture Represent?
Write Title and Name of Author in Form Below

Title
Author
Your Name
Street and Number
City or Town

TOTAL NUMBER OF PICTURES, 77. Contest began July 27th. Each day a different picture appears in this space. Cut them out. Save them until the last picture appears on October 11th. Don't send in partial lists. Wait until you have all the answers to the 77. Read Rules, Daily Story and Special Announcements in another part of this paper. It will help you win a prize. Extra pictures and coupons of any date that have appeared may be had at 2c. Enter to-day without registering your name. Merely Save Pictures and Coupons as they appear.

USE THIS ORDER BLANK FOR CATALOGUE

If you cut this order form, fill it out and send or bring it in with the sum designated, you will receive the Official Copyrighted Contest Catalogue of about 5,000 book titles, and seven certificates redeemable for the first thirty-five pictures in the contest. In the catalogue are all the correct titles to the seventy-seven pictures. Catalogues, 35 cents at this office, 40 cents by mail.

Booklovers' Contest Editor,
The Times-Dispatch:
Inclosed find 40 cents, for which send me a Booklovers' Contest Catalogue of about 5,000 book titles and the seven certificates redeemable for the first thirty-five pictures.
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